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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT Russian OB Notes

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 2 February 1948

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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Halle

a. An estimated six battalions of motorized infantry and one AT regiment were at the Halle-Wörlitz SS barracks in mid-December 1947. These barracks also serve as a headquarters and a general's residence. Thirty-six 85 mm AT guns were observed. [REDACTED]

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b. An artillery unit and an armored unit occupy the AA barracks at Wörlitz. The latter possesses 130 JS-1 tanks; no vehicles or guns were observed, but local residents aver that the artillery unit has approximately twenty-five 150 mm guns. [REDACTED]

c. At Halle-Nietleben, barracks are held by an armored reconnaissance unit in strength corresponding to a German reconnaissance battalion. Forty light armored reconnaissance cars with 20 mm turret guns were counted; eight additional guns, of approximately 85 mm caliber, and a number of JS-1 tanks were parked in garages. Two companies of mounted infantry, with mortars and machineguns, were seen leaving the barracks for drill.

d. Three MVD battalions occupy the police barracks on the Reilstrasse in Halle. These belong to General Kuznetsov's command. Men of older year classes in these battalions were scheduled to be released at Christmas, but this was postponed, and in mid-December all EM were restricted to quarters and all furloughs for officers were cancelled. About 14 December, security measures were tightened and all German personnel dismissed.

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2. Burg (F81): In early December, the former German barracks three kilometers north of the autobahn were held by an armored unit, described by local residents as two regiments. It is equipped with T-34's and assault guns on T-34 chassis.

3. Wilmsdorf (V32): The munitions plant at Wilmsdorf-Iamitsch has increased its activities since early December. On 6 December, sixty carloads of AT and artillery ammunition were shipped westward. New ammunition stocks continue to arrive from Frankfurt/Oder.

4. Dreetz (W17): All Soviet troops have left Dreetz and its munitions plant has been dismantled.

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5. According to a sawmill foreman, thirty sawmills in the Thuringer Wald were ordered in November to produce 200,000 wooden crates. As a model, the SMA provided a Panzerfaust crate with Wehrmacht inscriptions and ordered that this be used as a model, including the inner frame.

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